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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/023,653	12/21/2001	Masato Takahashi	110975	6445

25944 7590 11/10/2003

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EXAMINER

KIM, PETER B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2851

DATE MAILED: 11/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/023,653	TAKAHASHI, MASATO	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Peter B. Kim	2851	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8-11 and 16-36 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 12-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                            | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>2,2002</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Election/Restrictions***

This application contains claims 8-11 and 16-36 drawn to an invention nonelected with traverse. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancelation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-7 and 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sakamoto (5,931,441).

Sakamoto discloses an exposure apparatus that exposes a pattern of a mask (228) held by a mask stage (227) onto a substrate (222) held by a substrate stage (220) by scanning the pattern of the mask onto the substrate with a substrate stage having a main stage body (220) driven over a base plate (206) and a force actuator (207) that applies a force to the base plate comprising a memory (213) that stores vibration characteristics of the base plate corresponding to different positions of the main stage body (col. 18, line 66 – col. 20, line 17) a vibration detector (232) that detects the vibration characteristics of the base plate when the main stage body is driven and a controller (211) that controls the force actuator based on the vibration characteristics detected by the vibration detector and stored in the memory (col. 18, line 66 – col. 20, line 17).

Sakamoto also discloses a scanning exposure apparatus with a stage apparatus and a vibration control method comprising a detector (323) that detects a position of a center of gravity and of a major inertia axis of the stage when vibration is applied to the base plate by the main stage body where the center of gravity and the inertia axis are detected for different position of the main stage body (col. 18, line 66 - col. 19, line 12, and col. 19, lines 54-67) and a controller (211) that controls the force applied to the base plate by force actuator (207) towards the detected position of the center of gravity based on the position of the center of gravity and the position of the major inertia axis (col. 19, lines 13-53, and col. 20, lines 1-17).

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant argues that search and examination of the entire set of claims could be made without serious burden. However, Group II claims a stage apparatus having a reaction force transmission apparatus comprising an EI core, and Group III claims an exposure apparatus with a measurement instrument that measure positions of an optical member and projection optical system. Clearly, the claims of Groups II and III are sufficiently distinct from the claims of Group I, which requires detecting of the center of gravity and the inertia axis of the stage apparatus. Thus, search required for Group I is not required for Groups II and III.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter Kim whose telephone number is (703) 305-0105. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays during the same hours.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Russ Adams can be reached on 703 308 2847. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 306- 3431.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. B. Kim', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter B. Kim  
Patent Examiner  
November 3, 2003